

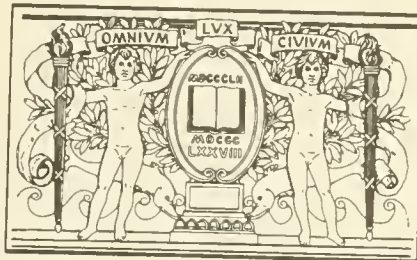
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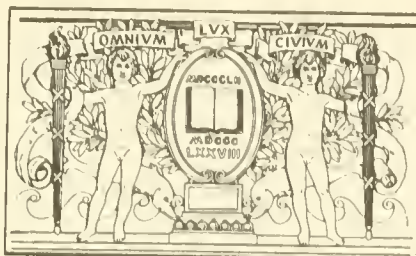
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BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY LIBRARY

The Boston Redevelopment Authority Library was established in May, 1966, in response to the need for a single repository of materials to serve the reference and research needs of the staff. The library provides information research and bibliographic service for the entire Authority.

In 1968, the Research Section of the Planning Department and the Library merged to form a single research and information unit to serve the Planning Department and the Authority. Materials previously kept in the Research Section form the basis of the present library. These and other publications have been classified to form a small working collection which includes reference and bibliographical sources, reports and documents of the City Planning Board and the Authority, selected government publications, periodicals, photographic slides, and reports of local agencies and organizations whose research and activities affect the Authority.

The acquisition policy places emphasis on publications relevant to the City of Boston and its programs and activities. The scope of the collections is broad, covering the many aspects of urban planning, housing, redevelopment, and related topics. No attempt is made to duplicate the comprehensive planning and urban renewal collections of the local universities.

The purpose of the library is to acquire, organize, and disseminate material to serve the research needs of the Authority. Library services include answering reference questions from within and outside the Authority, preparing bibliographies, locating materials for planning studies, and obtaining publications on loan from other libraries. The library also serves as the centralized department for the Authority for handling all purchases of books, periodicals, and other library-oriented materials.

In addition to its internal activities, the library gathers and disseminates statistical information on the redevelopment program and the City of Boston to a variety of public and private organizations as well as to individuals. In the past year, the library has provided statistical information and assistance to various city and state departments and the federal government. Numerous requests for social and economic data on the city by research firms were filled. Information on Boston and its redevelopment program was provided for numerous planning commissions and redevelopment authorities across the United States, Canada and Europe.

The library cooperates with University researchers who are studying urban problems. It also provides bibliographic assistance to individual researchers as well as to organizations planning to establish libraries or wishing to improve existing collections.

